

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 276030

E.O. 11652; N/A

TAGS: CVIS, PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: SOVEMBASSY MINISTER-COUNSELOR ON VISA REFUSALS

DURING SOVEMBASSY NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION NOV 5, EUR/SOV OFFICER MENTIONED NUMBER OF VISA REFUSALS BY SOVIETS FOR USG OFFICIALS WHO WISHED TO VISIT USSR BEFORE AND SHORTLY AFTER NOVEMBER 7 HOLIDAY. VASEV CONFIRMED THAT SOVIET EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED BLANKET INSTRUCTION FROM MFA TO REFUSE ALL VISAS FOR THIS PERIOD. HE SAID HE THOUGHT THIS WAS QUOTE FOOLISH UNQUOTE BUT THAT SOVIET AGENCIES INVOLVED PROBABLY FELT THAT ONCE ONE EXCEPTION WAS MADE, NUMBER OF OTHERS WOULD FOLLOW. EUR/SOV OFFICER TOLD VASEV THAT PROBLEMS MIGHT HAVE BEEN AVOIDED IF DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF THIS POLICY, BUT VASEV MADE NO COMMENT ON THIS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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Subject: SOVEMBASSY MINISTER-COUNSELOR ON VISA REFUSALS DURING SOVEMBASSY NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION NOV 5, EUR/SOV
Officer Mentioned Number of Visa Refusals by SOVIE
TAGS: CVIS, PFOR, UR, US
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006